

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAKAR 05169 071437Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SY-05 INR-10 SS-15 NSC-05 A-01

PM-05 DODE-00 /052 W

-----045616 071442Z /46

P 071347Z JUL 78

FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4808

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAKAR 5169

FOR AF/EX

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (CARTER, LILLIAN)

SUBJECT: MISS LILLIAN'S VISIT TO THE SAHEL: RUNWAY CONSTRAINT  
AT BANJUL-YUNDUM AIRPORT

REF: USDAO DAKAR 305 DTG 031630Z JUL 78

DATT HAS PROVIDED FOLLOWING INFORMATION CONCERNING USE OF  
AIRPORTS IN DAKAR, BANJUL AND BAMAKO:

1. AS WE UNDERSTAND, A DETERMINATION AS TO TYPE OF USAF  
AIRCRAFT TO BE USED FOR SUBJECT VISIT HAS NOT BEEN MADE.  
AIRCRAFT POSSIBLY UNDER CONSIDERATION ARE A VC-9 OR  
VC-135/137.
2. ALL AIRPORTS (DAKAR, BAMAKO AND BANJUL) IN DAO DAKAR'S  
AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY CAN HANDLE VC-9 WITH NO RPT NO  
CONSTRAINTS.
3. IN CASE OF VC-135/137, DAKAR AND BAMAKO POSE NO PROBLEM.  
HOWEVER, IN BANJUL CONSTRUCTION LIMITS LENGTH OF ONLY  
RUNWAY TO 1500 METERS (4921 FEET). WIDTH IS 45 METERS  
(147.6 FEET). THERE IS NO RPT NO OVERRUN.

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4. FROM OUR POINT OF VIEW THERE APPEAR TO BE FOUR  
OPTIONS IF A VC-135/137 IS TO BE USED:  
(A) VC-135/137 COULD STILL BE USED IF AIRCRAFT COULD  
LAND AND TAKE OFF IN 1500 METERS (LIGHT FUEL LOAD, ETC.)  
(B) VC-135/137 LAND DAKAR FROM CASABLANCA ON 23 JULY  
AND USAF VC-9 TAKE PARTY TO BANJUL AND RETURN THEM TO  
DAKAR 26 JULY.

(C) VC-135/137 LAND DAKAR FROM CASABLANCA AND PARTY  
TAKES CHARTER CARAVELLE TO BANJUL AND RETURN.

(D) VC-135/137 LAND DAKAR FROM CASABLANCA AND MISS  
LILLIAN AND FIVE OTHERS TAKE DAO MONROVIA C-12A TO  
BANJUL. REMAINDER OF PARTY TAKES CHARTER AIRCRAFT OR  
DRIVES TO BANJUL (4-5 HOUR TRIP). RETURN SAME METHOD.  
A MODIFICATION TO THIS OPTION WOULD BE MISS LILLIAN AND  
5 OTHERS TAKE C-12A AND REMAINDER LEASE/BORROW A  
SENEGALESE AIR FORCE F-27 FOR TRIP.

NOTE: ONLY COMMERCIAL FLIGHT TO BANJUL 23 JULY IS  
GHANA AIRWAYS FLIGHT LEAVING DAKAR 0900. ONLY RETURN  
FLIGHT 26 JULY IS GHANA AIRWAYS LEAVING BANJUL 1745.  
FLIGHT TIME BETWEEN DAKAR-BANJUL IS 20-30 MINUTES DEPENDING  
ON TYPE AIRCRAFT.

5. WOULD APPRECIATE BEING INFORMED OF DECISION ASAP  
SO THAT NECESSARY PREPARATIONS CAN BE MADE.  
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